GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2189
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2001
SETTING UP OF DOMESTIC INTERNET EXCHANGES
GADDE RAMAMOHAN

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government propose to increase the internet speed and set up Domestic Internet Exchanges in the country ;

(b) If so, the details thereof and the bandwidth required for the purpose ;

(c) whether the reliability of Internet is below as compared to International standard ;

(d) if so, the details of the global benchmark for down time and India`s down time ; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) & (b): It is planned to increase the bandwidth of National InternetBackbone upto 155 Mbps by BSNL(Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited).The international band width has been increased from 167Mbps to 801Mbps byVSNL(Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited).At present setting up of Domestic Internet Exchange in the country is not planned.

(c)&(d) : TRAI(Telecom Regulatory Authority of India) is the designated authority for laying down the standard for quality of service in the telecom sector. As intimated by TRAI, the internet service is supposedto be a ` best effort` service. There is yet no benchmark for its reliability and quality of service.

(e) The internet service has already been opened up by the Government to the private sector. The quality of service is likely to improve with the competition in this sector.